

the principle, still the vibrations were curious, and as interesting as any other of the many vibrations produced by heat or galvanism.

The vibrations are caused by the alternate actions of the heat of the lamp, bending the bar away from its influence, and of the consequent rapid cooling, which straightens it, throwing it back again within the former influence, this vibrating motion being assisted by the elasticity of the bar. Its approach to a red-hot bar or ball of iron produces the same effect. The vibrations do not take place when the platinum side of the spring is turned towards the source of heat, or when the action on the silver side is made perfectly uniform, as by bringing it under the influence of a thick red-hot iron bar bent in the shape of the curve, which it assumes by the heat received from it, or if heated by a very steady column of hot air striking, as before, against its silver side, but placed in such a position that the bending of it does not throw it out of the influence of the heating current.

Judge Kane made a verbal report from the committee appointed in February last, upon the subject of providing more extended and convenient accommodations for the Library of the Society, and moved that an appropriation of \$2000 be placed at the disposal of the committee, and that they be authorized to expend such amount, not exceeding that sum, as may be necessary for the object of their appointment:—Which motion was agreed to and the appropriation made by the Society.

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*Stated Meeting, May 19.*

Present, nine members.

Dr. FRANKLIN BACHE, President, in the Chair.

A letter was read from the Corresponding Secretary of the Wisconsin Historical Society, dated Madison, Wisconsin, May 10, 1854, soliciting an exchange of publications with this Society.

The following donations were announced:—

FOR THE LIBRARY.

Quarterly Journal of the Chemical Society. No. XXV. Vol. VII. 1.  
April, 1854. London. 8vo.—*From the Society.*

- Pennsylvania Archives: Selected and arranged from Original Documents in the Office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth, conformably to Acts of the General Assembly. Feb. 15, 1851, and March 1, 1852: by Samuel Hazard. 7 vols. From 1664 to 1779. (4 copies.) Philadelphia, 1852. 8vo.—*From the State of Pennsylvania.*
- Colonial Records: Minutes of the Supreme Executive Council of Pennsylvania, from its organization to the termination of the Revolution. Published by the State. Vols. XII. to XVI. inclusive. 1779 to 1790. (4 copies.) Harrisburg, 1853. 8vo.—*From the same.*
- Boston Journal of Natural History, containing Papers and Communications read before the Boston Society of Natural History. Vol. VI. No. 3. Boston, 1853. 8vo.—*From the Society.*
- Proceedings of the Boston Society of Natural History. No. 22. Feb. 1854. Boston. 8vo.—*From the same.*
- Proceedings of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. Vol. III. p. 1 to 104. Boston. 8vo.—*From the Academy.*
- Journal of the Franklin Institute. 3d Series. Vol. XXVII. No. 5. May, 1854. Philadelphia. 8vo.—*From the Institute.*
- Sixty-seventh Annual Report of the Regents of the University of the State of New York, transmitted to the Legislature, March 1, 1854. Albany. 8vo.—*From the Board of Regents.*
- Verhandelingen uitgegeven door de Commissie belast met het vervaardigen eener Geologische Beschrijving en Kaart van Nederland. Eerste Deel. Haarlem, 1853. 4to.—*From the Government of the Netherlands.*
- Proceedings of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia. Vol. VII. No. 2. March, April, 1854. Philadelphia. 8vo.—*From the Academy.*
- Discourse in Commemoration of the Founding of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia. By William Parker Foulke. Delivered March 20, 1854, in the Hall of the University of Pennsylvania. Philadelphia. 8vo.—*From the same.*
- Descriptions of New Fluvial Shells of the United States. By John G. Anthony, of Cincinnati, Ohio. (Ann. Lyc. Nat. Hist. N. Y. April, 1854.)—*From the Author.*
- The Plough, the Loom and the Anvil. Vol. VII. No. 11. May, 1854. New York. 8vo.—*From the Editor.*

On motion, it was ordered that the Wisconsin Historical Society be placed upon the list of Corresponding Societies.

The Minutes of the Board of Officers and Council at their late meeting were read.

Judge Kane asked to be excused from longer service as a member of the Committee on the Hall: when, on motion, his request was granted, and Mr. Fraley was appointed in his place.

On motion of Judge Kane, it was resolved that, in the opinion of the Society, the Committee on the Hall are authorized to make leases of such portions of the Society's premises as are not occupied by the Society, at their discretion.

On motion of Prof. Frazer, a committee was appointed to observe the expected Solar Eclipse, on the 26th inst.—And the following named gentlemen were placed on the committee: Prof. Frazer, Prof. Kendall, Mr. Longstreth, Mr. Justice, Mr. T. Wagner, Prof. S. Alexander, of Princeton; Prof. A. D. Bache, Dr. B. A. Gould, jr., Prof. Kirkwood, Prof. O. M. Mitchell.

It was then, on motion of Judge Kane, resolved that the Chairman of the above named Committee be authorized to add to the number of its members, and that a majority of the resident members shall be a quorum of the Committee.

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*Stated Meeting, June 16.*

Present, nine members.

Dr. FRANKLIN BACHE, President, in the Chair.

Letters were read:—

From Lord Mahon, dated Grosvenor Place, May 24, 1854, acknowledging the receipt of notice of his election as a member of this Society:—

From the Royal Saxon Society of Sciences, dated Leipsic, Feb. 27 and March 4, 1854; from Dr. G. A. Jahn, dated Leipsic April 8, 1854; from the Imperial Academy of Sciences at Vienna, dated January 18 and 28, 1854; from the Prince Ja-